

Workshop Report - Industrial stakeholder workshop on an enhanced LCA methodology

1.1. SUPRIM Objectives

SUPRIM aims at the identification of a consistent, empirically verifiable cause-and-effect chain linking flows of natural resources to sustainability impacts.

The specific purpose of the SUPRIM project is to develop a method that can represent in Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) the transition towards a more sustainable management of primary raw materials, and eventually a circular economy. To do so, there are several issues that need to be addressed. These include establishing agreement of how to define inefficient use of resources and development of an Life Cycle Impact Assessment (LCIA) method to quantify it; creating an exemplary Life Cycle Inventory dataset (LCI) based on case studies; validation of the adapted LCIA method; and bringing this knowledge to a broader audience.

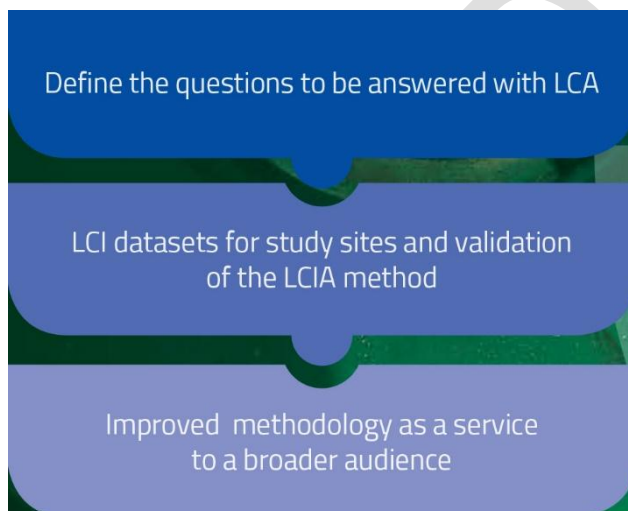


Chart 1: SUPRIM objectives

1.2. Key Communication Challenges for SUPRIM (from D0.1 & D2.1)

Currently, Life Cycle Inventory (**LCI**) **datasets** are available for a **limited set** of metals and in an aggregated way. Hence, there is an important gap in data are missing for a larger number of metals on the one hand and secondly, a further disaggregation and higher specificity in the environmental inventories (LCI datasets) in LCI Databases on the other hand. The latter may

be seen as a competitiveness concern for the sector in terms of confidentiality of data; however, it is worth exploring ways of providing more specific LCA data that do not reveal confidential items.

Equally, if certain companies or operations in certain regions/countries are very well performing, it may become a commercial advantage to demonstrate this performance through data. Such “green branding” is definitely something to which Western European consumers are open (c.f. the Product Environmental Footprint – PEF). Hence providing such more specific data could be a way forward and the Communication strategy of this project will reach out to the various stakeholders to develop this further.

Resource availability is a very broad issue and many parameters influence it. Most of them are crucial for the industry and are often a concern for the industrial sector and public authorities in the short term (see EU’s Raw Materials Initiative and its criticality analysis). However, differences can be observed between the perspectives of the industries supplying the raw material for further processing, the downstream industries relying on the material inputs, and consumers.

The societal consensus about resource availability as identified by SUPRIM comes from a long-term inter-generational view of physical availability or potential ‘depletion’ of resources. As long as there is no generally accepted and reliable way of forecasting/assessing resource use for this long-term perspective, the raw materials sector will continue to be faced with disbelief and be perceived as a sector that potentially depletes resources for the future. This project will provide a more reliable method to include such availability considerations and communicating these results to a wider audience should help.

As the ‘availability’ and ‘depletion’ of primary resources has been regarded in very different contexts and areas, different communities have developed their own terminology. One crucial item to be properly understood is what is exactly available as resources in the natural environment and its potential to be sourced. (The terms “availability” and “accessibility” are frequently used in the context of resource stocks for use in the technosphere.) Here the problem goes even beyond the problem of divergent terminology; there appears to be a kind of knowledge gap among the different communities.

1.3. The Workshop

The workshop was organised on the 11th December 2018 in Brussels. 37 participants joined this 1-day event. This industrial stakeholder workshop was a unique opportunity for the industry contributing to the discussion on LCA methodology, establishing a better agreement of the problem definition, and assisting to develop an amended LCIA method. The industry participation in this case was crucial and influential.

The workshop started with a brief introduction to the basic principles of LCA presented by Dr. Jeroen Guinée (Leiden University). The following presentation by Dr. Corina Hebestreit (Euromines) provided information on the policy instruments and legislation of relevance since 1998 on raw materials and new legislative proposals. Jan Bollen (ArcelorMittal) talked about the ArcelorMittal's perspective on LCIA, indicators, data availability and Product Environmental Footprint from the industry point of view. Mr. Johannes Drielsma (Euromines) provided a

good overview on resource efficiency indicators and on Euromines experience of the EU Product Environment Footprint.

Second part of the workshop was focusing on communication of SUPRIM results to industry audiences. Jo Dewulf (Ghent University) presented the reasons and objectives of SUPRIM. Dr. Laurant van Oers (Leiden University) provided comprehensive information on WP2 that is focusing on agreed problem definition and method. The issue of assembling the necessary data from two copper mines (Aitik and Cobre las Cruces) was the main focus of the WP3 presentation done by Tobias Kampmann (Luleå University of Technology). Dr. Veronika Sochorová (Euromines) was focusing on project communication and dissemination and the selected channels and tools. The following debate with workshop participants provided a number of valuable suggestions on future communication.

Workshop list of participants (see annex).

Main target audience:

- ⇒ IP: industrial partners in the project, e.g. their sustainability managers, data managers
- ⇒ PPS: primary production sector, e.g. their sustainability managers, data managers
- SAC: sustainability assessment community: software developers, consultants, LCA practitioners
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Some potential key messages from earlier project deliverables as well as from speakers and the audience included:

- There is a need to better address uncertainty in LCA;
- The value of LCA for industry is for marketing purposes (Access to Market);
- Availability/Accessibility of resources is less static than LCA shows;
- Availability/Accessibility of resources is very time dependent;
- LCA is currently a hostage to good & bad practice (often a “hired gun”);
- The SUPRIM problem definition is better;
- There is a need for a better (SUPRIM) model;
- SUPRIM is the cross-sectoral consensus.

Annex 1: Communication Channels/Tools

Workshop 2 - Practitioner stakeholder workshop on an enhanced LCA methodology

A second workshop will be organised on the 22nd May 2019 in Berlin and will be part of the Raw Materials Summit 2019. This half-day event will be organised for up to 50 participants.

Target audience:

- ⇒ AC: academic community: researchers and students
- ⇒ SAC: sustainability assessment community: software developers, consultants, LCA practitioners
- ⇒ KIC: sustainability managers and practitioners, e.g. Info Centre, SSIC

Final SUPRIM Conference – How better to account for your primary raw materials in your LCA

The final SUPRIM conference will take place in the EIT House in Brussels on 22nd October 2019. This 1-day event will be organised for approx. 100 participants.

Main target audience:

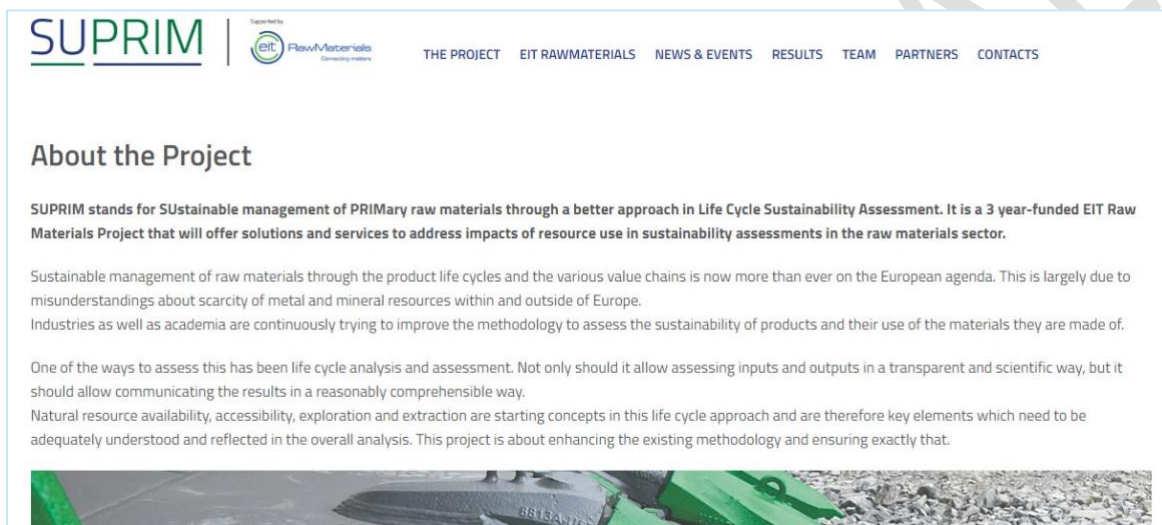
- ⇒ AC: academic community: researchers and students
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- ⇒ KIC: sustainability managers and practitioners, e.g. Info Centre, SSIC
- ⇒ IP: industrial partners in the project, e.g. their sustainability managers, data managers
- ⇒ PPS: primary production sector, e.g. their sustainability managers, data managers
- ⇒ PM: policy makers: UNEP-SETAC, OECD, EC(-JRC), DG ENV, DG GROW national and regional governmental bodies & standards bodies (e.g., ASTM International)

SUPRIM website - suprim.eitrawmaterials.eu

The newly created SUPRIM website [http://suprim.eitrawmaterials.eu/](http://suprim.eitrawmaterials.eu) is already a vital source of information for our target audiences. The website is written in less technical language and includes basic information understandable for general public not necessarily experts in LCIA's.

The website also enables those who are interested to register online for different SUPRIM events.

The website should also be a valuable tool for media relations, providing quick access to the information about the project to journalists.



Pic. 1: SUPRIM website - homepage

Annex 2: List of Participants

Tuesday 11 December 2018 – 09h30-17h15
Hotel Leopold Brussels EU
Rue du Luxembourg 35, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

Mr. Lucas ALCÓN FRANCO

Cobre Las Cruces (CLC)

Dr. Rodrigo ALVARENGA

Ghent University

Mrs. Maria de Fátima ALVES SANCHES NUNES

Somincor / ANIET

Mr. Tobias ANDRES

VKS - Verband der Kali- und Salzindustrie e.V. (representing 7 member companies)

Mr. Jan BOLLEN

Arcelor Mittal

Ms. Miette DECHELLE

UEPG (representing 27 national aggregate producers associations)

Prof. Jo DEWULF

Ghent University

Mr. Johannes DRIELSMA

Euromines

Dr. Thomas DRNEK

Veitsch-Radex GmbH & Co OG

Mr. Juan Manuel ESCOBAR TORRES

Cobre las Cruces

Dr. W. Eberhard FALCK

WEFalck consultancy

Mr. Oskar FILIPOWSKI

KGHM Polska Miedz S.A.

Ms. Ainara GARCÍA

Tecnalia

Dr. Sabina GRUND

International Zinc Association (representing 35 member companies)

Dr. Jeroen B. GUINEE

Leiden University

Ms. Ulrika HÄGGROTH

Lundin Group of Companies

Dr. Corina HEBESTREIT

Euromines

Mr. Szymon JĖDRZEJEWSKI

KGHM Polska Miedz´S.A

Dr. Tobias KAMPMANN

Luleå University of Technology

Mr. Christos KAVALOPOULOS

Greek Mining Enterprises Association (representing 27 member companies)

Mrs. Verena KOLROSER

Austrian Mining and Steel Association (representing 98 member companies)

Mr. António LEITE CORREIA DE MATOS

Somincor S.A.

Mr. Lars-Åke LINDAHL

SveMin (representing 20 member companies)

Mr. Mats LINDBLÖM

Boliden

Dr. Petros MARABOUTIS

Eco Efficiency

Mr. Alexandre MARIN

Euromines

Dr. Mark MISTRY

Nickel Institute (representing 16 member companies)

Ms. Carollynne PETTIT

Cobalt Institute (representing 18 member companies)

Dr. David PÓČ

Czech Republic Mining Association (Tezební unie CZ) (representing 18 member companies)

Mr. Mark RACHOVIDES (joining by Webex)

Dundee Precious Metals

Dr. David SANJUAN DELMÁS

Ghent University

Dr. Veronika SOCHOROVÁ

Euromines

Ms. Alev SOMER

UEPG

Mr. Rafal SZKOP

Employers' Organisation of Polish Copper (representing 71 member companies)

Dr. Botio TABAKOV

Bulgarian Chamber of Mining and Geology (representing 34 member companies)

Ms. Gergana TODOROVA

Dundee Precious Metals

Ms. Kyriaki TSICHLA

Greek Mining Enterprises Association

Dr. Lauran VAN OERS

Leiden University